

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 OC-05 SCS-03 FBO-02 SCCT-01 AID-05

CCO-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NIC-01 NSC-05 SP-02

OPR-01 PA-01 USSS-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01

SS-15 SY-04 PC-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 EB-07 /105 W

----- 125997

O 011139Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2914

INFO AMCONGEN ASMARA IMMEDIATE

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

COMIDEASTFOR NIACT IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN NIACT IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 1250

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN ASMARA

REF: ASMARA'S 128 AND PREVIOUS

THERE FOLLOWS LIST OF LATEST INFO AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY ON SUBJECT
SITUATION:

1. AT APPROX 1215 HOURS LOCAL FEB 1 FIRING IN ASMARA INCREASED
IN INTENSITY. TROOPS WERE OBSERVED MOVING THROUGH STREETS AND THEY
BEGAN TO BREAK INTO HOMES.

2. BY APPROX. 1300 HOURS FIRING DYING DOWN IN ASMARA AND IT CLEAR
THAT SOLDIERS REMOVING MALE CIVILIANS FROM SELECTED HOMES, PRESUMABLY
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AS HOSTAGES. FIRING ON OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN CONTINUING HOWEVER, INCLUDI

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BOTH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND 105 MM HOWITZERS. PEOPLE WHO HAD TAKEN COVER EARLIER ENROUTE FROM ONE LOCATION TO ANOTHER BEGINNING TO REEMERGE INTO STREET AND TO PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY ON THEIR WAY.

3. AT APPROX. 1330 HOURS CONGEN ADVISED THAT ALL AMERICANS APPEARED SAFE AND FOLLOWING PERSONNEL PRESENT IN CONSULATE: ACTING CONGEN, WIFE, BABY, GSO OFFICER, ONE MARINE, ONE MAAG COLONEL AND ONE ADDIS EMBOFF.

4. ACTING CONGEN FEELS AND EMBASSY AGREES THAT IT TOO EARLY TO OFFER RECOMMENDATIONS ON POSSIBLE EVACUATION OF SOME AMERICANS TO ADDIS . ASMARA AIRPORT IS CLOSED; INCREASE IN FIRING COULD COME AGAIN AT ANY TIME. EMBASSY ACCORDINGLY BEGINNING INTERNAL REPT INTERNAL PREPARATIONS TO RECEIVE POTENTIAL AMERICAN EVACUEES FROM ASMARA SHOULD THEIR REMOVAL HERE EVENTUALLY BE DEEMED NECESSARY AND FEASIBLE. WE ARE NOT RPT NOT DISCUSSING EITHER OUR IN HOUSE PREPARATIONS OR THE EVACUATION CONTINGENCY WITH ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES.

5. EMBASSY ALSO TAKING STEPS TO ALERT AMERICAN COMMUNITY QUIETLY TO POSSIBILITY OF REPERCUSSIONS IN ADDIS OF SITUATION IN ASMARA AND ERITREA. ADDIS, HOWEVER, CURRENTLY CALM. WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 01 FEB 1975
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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